

April 20, 2000

Summarized from Arkansas WQS Program files/ JA

- the confluence of Coffee Creek with the Ouachita River occurs approximately two to three miles downstream from the GP Crossett plant
- except during rainfall periods, Coffee Creek and Mossy Lake consist entirely of Georgia Pacific's (GP Crossett) discharge
- according to the ADPC&E (now AR Dept of Env Quality, ADEQ), GP Crossett had indicated a willingness to install the degree of treatment necessary to protect the water quality standards (WQS) in the Ouachita River (DO of 5 mg/L)
- Arkansas proposed WQS revisions in early 1973 which included a use classification for Coffee Creek of "Ciw" (Class "C" stream consisting of treated industrial wastewater); after public comment, the result was a designation of a Class "B" stream; this approach by Arkansas was strongly encouraged by EPA
- March 1977, EPA informed GP Crossett that their discharge point would have to be considered as the discharge from their aerated lagoon instead of the mouth of Coffee Creek since the creek is a water of the U.S.
- May 1979, Arkansas proposed a standards change to remove the 2.0 mg/L DO requirement for Coffee Creek; public hearing was scheduled for December 17, 1979
- August 12, 1979, new regulations became effective which specifically defined waters of the U.S. to include waters such as Coffee Creek
- November 15, 1979, revisions were proposed for the Arkansas Water Quality Standards which removed all beneficial fishery and contact recreation uses and exempted Coffee Creek and Mossy Lake from all "General" and "Specific" criteria except the following: nuisance, taste and odor, solids, floating materials and deposits, toxic substances.
- August 27, 1984, Public Hearing - Johnny S. Carter of the Georgia-Pacific Corporation made a presentation to the Arkansas Commission on Pollution Control and Ecology regarding the removal of fishery and contact recreation uses from Coffee Creek; stated that the only beneficial uses of Coffee Creek were agricultural and industrial supply
- September 21, 1984 memo from John Giese, ADPC&E – contains a revised summary of changes to the Arkansas WQS; in Appendix A on page 21, the following statement was added: "Those stream segments listed in Appendix A with a ★ will have a use attainability analysis scheduled within the next three years." In the Ouachita River Basin list, Coffee Creek is listed with a star and is designated with the following two uses: Industrial Water Supply, Agricultural Water Supply.
- January 28, 1985, letter from EPA, signed by Myron O. Knudson, approves Arkansas' WQS triennial revisions with several required actions, one of which is the completion of a use attainability analysis (UAA) on Coffee Creek
- an economic UAA was completed by Georgia-Pacific in September 1987 and was sent to EPA Region 6; an approval letter signed by Myron Knudson was sent to ADPC&E on April 26, 1988
- a site visit is being scheduled soon

6/14-15/00